



The New Englander



July, 2000

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY...



Dear Sherri

Wow!!!! What an incredible day it was for all of us here in the Jimmy Fund Clinic when we welcomed you and your incredible Elves. Christmas in July – What a wonderful idea! The day was more than we could have imagined.

It gave us all great joy to watch these very special children pick what toy they were going to take home with them and eat more candy and cookies then they have most likely ever seen at one sitting. You all went above and beyond making these kids laugh, and feel special. Everything that was on our wish list and more was delivered to us.

As I said over and over to you on Thursday, very rarely does anyone actually hear what these kids and their families truly need. You all heard and you delivered! From the wonderful strollers to the diaper wipes it was simply perfect! The generosity of everyone who participated in this donation drive is amazing, and very much appreciated by all of us here in the clinic. You not only made the kids day, but you made mine as well; seeing these kids smile is what it is all about.

The Jimmy Fund is fortunate to have such special friends who take the time and energy to think of these kids and made their time in treatment a bit more bearable. From all of us here in the Jimmy Fund Clinic we thank you for your generosity and kindness you have all given to these most incredible children and their families.

From Sherri Edwards Thanks to all of you, the Donation Drive was successful. To McGruff and Sassy, your presence brought a lot of smiles. Your efforts and commitment was deeply appreciated by the staff, children, and families of the Dana Farber.



Jeff Newman and Sassy (Gerry Bernard) assemble one of the gifts.



McGruff (Karl Schmitt) greeting the Nintendo crowd.

(More letters continued on page 2)

Take a good look at this edition of The New Englander!

Next month our employee newsletter is going to sport GSA's Corporate ID. Nothing stays the same. It is a new century. Technology evolves on an almost daily basis. GSA is changing her approach to be more efficient and a real competitor for the private sector. This month The New Englander will look back at its development. Next month the newsletter will conform to the new branding guidelines and wearing the new logo.



I wanted to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and the appreciation of the staff of the Office for Civil Right, U.S. Department of Education, for the efforts of several of your staff to facilitate our move within the POCH Building. Specifically, we would like to thank **Steve Marshall, John McDonald, Michelle Vega** and **Andrea Strobel**. OCR had occupied the 2nd floor in this building for almost 16 years. The move to the 7th floor brought an opportunity to provide adequate space, meeting rooms and furniture for all staff, but it was not without numerous significant challenges and obstacles. The GSA team worked to meet those challenges and provided a level of customer service that we had not previously ever experienced from GSA. Whether it was coordinating the contractor's schedules with carpet and furniture delivery, removing a telephone panel from the middle of a conference room, addressing needed last minute changes which were necessary to allow furniture to fit, or dealing with the untold other issues which arose, these individuals were responsive, cooperative and got the job done.

The result is space which has significantly enhanced the work life of OCR staff and we are all appreciative of the contributions made by GSA staff to that effort. We hope you will have an opportunity to visit our space. In this case, the picture really is worth a thousand words! *(Thomas J. Hibino, Regional Director to Bob Dunfey)*



I would like to take this brief opportunity to express my sincere thanks to one of your employee's, **Mr. Jeff Steely**. Mr. Steely was attending the GSA's Western Regions Conference in San Antonio, Texas. I was asked to fill in as a conference presenter on our Facility Security Risk Management (FSRM) process and risk assessment.

Due to logistics of the conference, I needed someone to assist me in operating my computer with the FSRM as I conducted my presentation. I had asked Jeff if he would be willing to do so and he readily accepted.

My presentation went very well because of Jeff's knowledge and familiarity of the FSRM and I appreciate his readiness to accept my help on short notice.

Please convey my gratitude and thank you to Mr. Steely. He is a credit to the Federal Protective Service. *(Bobby Deitch, Area Security Manager, Federal Protective Service-Heartland Region. To Paul Chochrek)*



I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude towards **Officer Walter Schlichting** (badge # 1376). On July 12, 2000 I parked by the new Federal Courthouse to give a talk on the Lord Nelson and accidentally left my lights on. When I returned to my car I realized that my battery was dead.

Mr. Schlichting went above all expectations of a Federal Police Officer by helping me get my car running. I appreciate his courtesy, professionalism and willingness to help out a person in need. We need more people who care for others like Officer Schlichting. *(Frederick E. Berry, Senator, Second Essex to Bob Dunfey)*

AND WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS E:MAIL



To: Sandy.Dibernardo
From: Marcy Owens
Subject: Congratulations!

From what we know - Your region was the first to have received a rebate for a brokerage commission under the new procedures set up in April. In a succeeding lease signed by Suzanne Ramsdell, Contracting Officer of your staff, approximately \$93,000 was returned to GSA to be deposited in BA 61. Just for your information, the fee paid to Spaulding & Slye for the work competed on this project was less than \$13,000.00. That is a great win for GSA! This is exciting for all of us - I know that Paul Prouty has been very interested in doing this and you can tell him - your Region did it first!

It took us a long way from the Region 8 Lease Lab - but we have finally been able to have GSA take advantage of the brokerage commission when it is available.



GSA - THE NEXT GENERATION

David and Kathy Gherlein had a son, **Andrew David** on July 13, 2000.

THE NEW ENGLANDER - A HISTORY

How did *The New Englander* come into being? For those of you who have been here long enough to remember, *The New Englander* was not the first New England Region newsletter to hit your desk. Back in 1974, Tom McGrath, former Director of Personnel, published the *GSA New England News*. The 12-page newsletter was published seasonally. In it Tom kept you up to date on the latest and greatest in procurement procedures and personnel moves. In 1994 the need to resurrect the employee newsletter was apparent - the agency was reorganizing and streamlining procurement procedures - information needed to be shared across the Region. A one page untitled newsletter was published in May of 1995. In it employees were asked to vote for the title of their newsletter. The following results were soon published: *The Lighthouse* (12 votes), *GSA Grapevine* (12 votes), *The Column* (7 votes) and *The New Englander* (15 votes). And so *The New Englander* which we have all come to know was born.



HIGH FIVE TO:



The New England Region, one of nine regions to win the Administrator's Annual Safety Commendation Award for FY1999. To receive this special award the Regions reduced their injury and illness rate, conducted Occupational Health and Safety committee meetings, surveys, and training.

FAST TRACKS

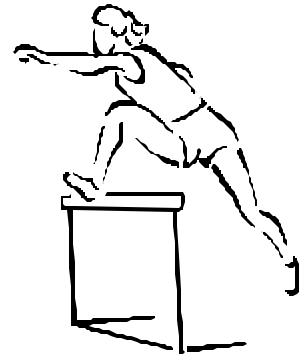
Peer Award - **Deborah Tarleton, Sally Robinson, and Mary Orgettas**

Facilitator for Service Delivery Team - **Arthur Hopkins**

Installation of Kiosk in New Haven - **Leroy Gomes**

Installation of Kiosk in Bangor - **Lori Whittemore**

PIA Conference - **Paula Bergin**



PERSONNEL-ALLY SPEAKING

Welcome Aboard

Nicholas Pace Contract Spec. 1PL

New Jobs

Sal Torname Computer Spec 1TT

EPA Construction On a Roll



A work of art in progress - EPA Laboratory in Chelmsford

Construction of the state of the art Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Laboratory in Chelmsford, MA, one of Region One's most significant green projects, is moving towards completion at the end of June 2001.

The construction of the laboratory is in compliance with the US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Program, which is a voluntary program designed on a points system. Points are awarded as certain criteria are met during construction and occupancy. The more points a project receives, the higher the rating that is awarded, going from bronze to silver, then gold, and finally platinum. Construction methods used in the "green" project that comply with the LEED point system include the installation of a roof that supplies run-off storm water to recharge wetlands, utilizing upgraded HVAC and electrical equipment to achieve significant energy savings, and recycling construction materials just to name a few. The project is in strong standing for a silver rating and only a few points away from gold.

Right now construction is moving right along with the shell of the Lab 85% complete and the underground utilities, electrical, and plumbing installed. The main building will be 64,440 square feet, with a 1,810 square foot hazardous material storage area, and 2,700 square foot boat storage shed. The Aquest Development Company out of Buffalo, New York is heading up the project, which is a 20-year build to suit lease.

Project team members involved include **John Buckley, Jay Hawkes, Mike Strobel, Karen Curran, Karen Palladino** and **Roman Piaskoski**.

SAIL BOSTON 2000



Millions of visitors came to Boston to view the Tall Ships during the month of July – it was truly a sight to behold! Many of these visitors watched the parade from the Boston Courthouse Harborpark and the J. F. Williams Coast Guard Building, and following the parade, visited the ships at the dock of the Courthouse. Employees from the Metro Operations Division and the Federal Protective Service prepared for many weeks to ensure that things would run smoothly at our facilities, and their efforts paid off with a smooth sailing event! Congratulations to everyone involved.



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